

MCICOM Safety

*Spring Safety Brief 2015



*** Topics of Discussion**

- *Spring Cleaning/Home Safety**
- *BBQ Safety**
- *Water Safety**
- *Chemical & Pesticides**
- *Pets and The Great Outdoors**
- *Ladder Safety**
- *Spring Weather**



*** Prepare Your Home for Spring**

***Spring is the time to clean. Follow these steps to keep yourself safe:**

- *Lift with your legs & keep your back straight.**
- *Check cleaning product labels before use.**
- *Use proper ventilation w/chemicals**



*** Remember to....**

- *Change your air filters**
- *Check vehicle tire pressure & tire wear**
- *Clear debris from rain gutters**
- *Turn on water to outdoor faucets**



HOME SAFETY CHECKLIST

1. Smoke Detectors

- ☐ Make sure they work correctly
- ☐ Check once a month
- ☐ Gently vacuum to keep them clean

2. Fire Extinguisher

- ☐ Make sure it is properly charged
- ☐ Look for dents, rust, corrosion, damage to nozzle and hose
- ☐ Check for manufacture date (maintenance due after 6 years)
- ☐ Turn up-side down to loosen dry chemical

3. Escape Plans

- ☐ Establish a meeting place outside
- ☐ Practice monthly, EVERYONE participate
- ☐ Make sure to have both primary and alternate escape routes

4. Candles

- ☐ Place away from flammable objects
- ☐ Put on sturdy, non-combustible surface
- ☐ One candle per holder

5. Power Strips

NOT ALL POWER STRIPS ARE SURGE PROTECTORS

Surge protector will shut off when it overloaded

- ☐ Check for conditions
- ☐ Certified by nationally recognized testing laboratory - UL
- ☐ Don't overload outlets (most are good up to 15 amps)



6. Extension Cords

- ☐ Temporary use only
- ☐ Look for damage, separation, and cuts in cords



7. Space Heaters

DON'T USE WITH EXTENSION CORDS

- ☐ Certified by nationally recognized testing laboratory - UL
- ☐ Don't storage anything within 18 in. of the unit
- ☐ Thermostatic controls
- ☐ Automatic shutoff features
- ☐ Plugged directly into an outlet
- ☐ Grounded with a 3-pronged plug



Is Your Home Safe?

- Did you know that more than 18,000 Americans die every year from injuries that take place in the home?

Common problems that lead to injury/death:

- Falls
- Poisonings
- Drowning
- Water heaters set too high
- Firearms improperly stored or locked up
- Unsafe storage of medications



How to prevent falls

- **Clear clutter!**
Instead of placing items on the floor, use bins or closets to avoid hazardous footing.
- **Light it up.** Make sure there is sufficient lighting.
- **Be aware of wet surfaces.**



6,000 Fatalities per year are due to falls.

How to prevent Choking and Suffocation

- **Always watch small children! Scan the area for small objects that can choke or suffocate.**
- **Never bring babies into your bed to sleep. 60 accidental infant deaths occur every year in adult beds due to co-sleeping.**
- **Bags, balloons and plastic pieces are fatal hazards to children.**



How to prevent fires and burns

- **Install smoke detectors in every level of your home, most importantly in your kitchen, bedrooms and basement.**
- **Always be prepared for a fire. Have a family fire safety plan.**



<http://www.nfpa.org/safety-information/for-consumers/escape-planning>

Charcoal Grills

- **Electric charcoal starters are an option. Be sure to use an extension cord for outdoor use.**
- **When you are finished grilling, let the coals cool COMPLETELY before disposing in a METAL container.**
- **Carefully consider the location of your grill for both fire and fumes.**



Propane Grills

- **If a gas grill goes out or doesn't light, turn it off, open the lid and wait at least 5 minutes before trying again.**
- **NEVER attempt to use a gas grill inside your home.**



Water Safety

Monitor your children while they are bathing.

A 5 gallon bucket of water kills 20 five year olds each year.

If you have a swimming pool, be sure to install four-sided fencing to separate the house and yard from the pool.



Pesticides & Chemicals

- **Don't spray outdoors on windy or rainy days. Take precautions to ensure pesticides don't spread to vegetable gardens or pet's drinking water.**



Pesticides & Pets

- **Remove pets, pet toys, chew bones, food bowls, and bedding from area prior to applying pesticides, fertilizers or any chemicals.**



Pets and the Great Outdoors

- **Each year roughly 30,000 people contract Lyme disease from ticks.**
- **Heavily wooded areas, tall grass and shrubs are the most common places to find ticks.**
- **Deer Ticks are most active from April through October**



<http://www.orkin.com/other/fleas/>

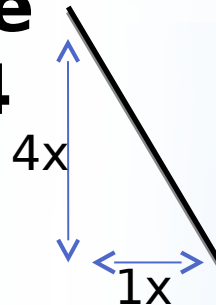
Remember your pets get HOT too...

- **Remember that high humidity can be deadly for pets.**
- **Don't leave your pet in a car. On a 70 degree day within 30 minutes the inside of your car will reach 104 degrees.**



Ladder Safety

- **Never be more than one person on a ladder.**
- **Never stand on the ladder's top three rungs.**
- **Ladders should be placed with a 1: 4 relationship**



Spring Weather

- **With the weather warming up, the flowers blooming and the warm sun shining, severe weather is always lurking around the corner.**

24,000 people are *killed* by *lightning* strikes around the world each year!



Tips for Staying Ahead of the Storm

- **Keep a full tank of gas, if you are driving in severe weather, always look for a safe way to exit the roadway.**
- **Keep a well stocked emergency preparedness kit in a easily accessible location. (Cash is King)**



In Your Emergency Preparedness Kit:

- At least a three-day supply of water.
- A three-to five-day supply of non-perishable canned food, and a non-electric can opener
- Flashlight
- Battery-powered radio
- Extra batteries
- Wrench and/or pliers to turn off utilities
- First Aid kit
- Blankets, bedding, and/or sleeping bags
- Identification, cash
- Prescription medications
- Cell phone charger
- Extra set of eyeglasses, or contact lenses and solution



**Enjoy the warm weather, have fun and
remember to stay safe!**



**Brought to you by MCICOM Safety Division "Precaution is
better than the cure" By Edward Coke**